



New Jersey Office of
Homeland Security & Preparedness

NEWS



New York State
Office of Homeland Security

For Immediate Release
July 17, 2007

Contact: Roger Shatzkin (NJ), 609-588-7250
Amy Bonanno (NY), 518-408-1684
Robert Sullivan (CSXT), 215-209-4580

New Jersey and New York Announce Freight Rail Security Partnership *Partnership with CSX Transportation to Serve as Model for Private Sector*

JERSEY CITY – New Jersey and New York homeland security officials today announced a unique freight rail security partnership with CSX Transportation (CSXT) that continues the two states' close regional cooperation and further strengthens the ability of both states to protect both their residents and critical infrastructure.

Richard Cañas, New Jersey Director of Homeland Security and Preparedness and Michael Balboni, New York Deputy Secretary to the Governor for Public Safety, made the announcement today with David Brown, CSXT's Vice President and Chief Transportation Officer, at a public ceremony at Liberty State Park in Jersey City.

The partnership — the first of its kind between the public sector and the rail industry — increases New Jersey and New York's ability to share information and resources with CSXT to protect communities in both states as well as the railroad's infrastructure, which is relied upon for both freight and passenger service. Both the Metro North and New Jersey Transit passenger rail systems travel on CSXT tracks.

"Ensuring that our freight rail system is secure is a top priority for my administration," said New Jersey Governor Jon S. Corzine. "Today's announcement memorializes a partnership with CSXT and New York that takes a great step toward providing greater protection to the citizens of the bi-state region. CSXT deserves credit for stepping up and serving as a model for a collaborative public-private security initiative. We hope it is one that other private sector companies will emulate."

"We are pleased to continue our tradition of working closely with our colleagues in New Jersey on security issues of mutual concern in order to protect the citizens of our two great states, and the rail network that helps support the region's economy," said New York Governor Eliot

Spitzer. “We also must acknowledge CSXT’s ongoing commitment to cooperating with us in the mission of safeguarding the public.”

“This agreement demonstrates our commitment to working with the private sector to better protect critical infrastructure sites throughout New Jersey,” Director Cañas said. “The partnership we are announcing today enhances the state’s rail security strategy by improving our ability to prevent incidents as well as to deploy first responders if an incident involving hazardous materials occurs.”

As an element of the partnership, CSXT has made its Network Operations Workstation (NOW System) available to New Jersey and New York security and law enforcement officials. The NOW system is an online tool that enables security and law enforcement officials to independently track the location of CSXT trains and the contents of rail cars being hauled by CSXT in each state. The New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness (OHSP) has piloted the system and CSXT is in the process of providing this capability to OHSP investigators and the New Jersey State Police at the Regional Operations Intelligence Center (ROIC). New York has installed this capability in its New York State Intelligence Center (NYSIC), under the day-to-day supervision of the New York State Police.

In addition to the ability to monitor the contents of freight rail cars for security purposes, officials pointed out that easy access to information about the location and destination of each train and the contents of each railcar are invaluable in an emergency. During incidents involving hazardous materials, the NOW System provides “situational awareness” to first responders and incident managers. This knowledge ensures that first responders arrive on scene with specialized equipment to effectively respond to the emergency.

New Jersey, New York, and CSXT are also taking additional steps to secure critical freight rail infrastructure across each state. These steps include:

- Conducting joint law enforcement and emergency responder training and exercising;
- Providing the states and their communities a list of the hazardous materials transported in their areas on CSXT’s rail network;
- Maintaining round-the-clock access among the states’ security, law enforcement and first responders and CSXT rail security professionals;
- Undertaking joint initiatives to reduce vulnerabilities at critical points along the rail corridor.

###